

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, JA
SUBJECT: ILO: JAPAN-NORTH AMERICA METAL WORKERS CONFERENCE

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: US AND JAPANESE AFFILIATES OF INTERNATIONAL METAL WORKERS FEDERATION (IMF), HOLDING THEIR SECOND ANNUAL JOINT MEETING IN TOKYO JULY 11-12, ISSUED "CONCLUDING STATEMENT": 1) CALLING ON THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE FURTHER STEPS TO STIMULATE ECONOMY AND DOMESTIC DEMAND; 2) PLEDGING CONTINUED EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND "PRIOR CONSULTATION" ON MEASURES TO COPE WITH UNEMPLOYMENT (E.G., TRADE RESTRICTIONS); AND 3) AGREEING TO JOINT COOPERATION VIS-A-VIS ACTIVITIES OF MULTINATIONALS IN METALS FIELD.

2. DURING MEETING, EIGHT AMERICAN DELEGATES (INCLUDING REPS FROM AFL-CIO INDUSTRIAL UNION DEPARTMENT, UAW, USW, IAM, IUE AND SHEET METAL WORKERS) STRESSED CONTINUED HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT IN U.S. AND URGED JAPANESE TO REFRAIN FROM SUDDEN EXPORT DRIVES CONCENTRATED ON PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES. WITH RESPECT TO AUTOS,
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AMERICAN DELEGATES CALLED ON JAPANESE MANUFACTURERS TO OPEN PLANTS IN U.S. AND, ON STEEL, THEY SUPPORTED NEGOTIATION OF ORDERLY MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS IN CONTEXT OF OECD-SPONSORED STEEL CONFERENCE. JAPANESE PREDICTABLY EMPHASIZED THEIR RESOURCE-POOR NATION'S RELIANCE ON EXPORTS AND ITS POOR RECOVERY FROM RECESSION. WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING NUCLEAR REPROCESSING ISSUE, THEY ASKED FOR U.S. SUPPORT OF THEIR EFFORTS TO DEVELOP

NUCLEAR ENERGY SOURCES.

3. IN SEPARATE MEETING WITH JAPANESE BUSINESS LEADERS, HEADED BY KEIDANREN PRESIDENT DOKO (SEPTEL), U.S. UNION LEADERS URGED JAPAN TO "MODERATE EXPORT LEVELS" AND SUGGESTED ADOPTION OF "EARLY WARNING SYSTEM" TO PINPOINT AREAS IN WHICH EXPORTS EXCEEDING ACCEPTABLE LEVELS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN LOU: COMMENT: MEETING CONDUCTED IN VERY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE, IN LARGE PART BECAUSE OF PERSONAL TIES DEVELOPED OVER THE YEARS BETWEEN U.S. AND JAPANESE METAL WORKER LEADERS. ADDITIONALLY, U.S. LABOR DELEGATES, IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBOFFS, INDICATED THAT JAPANESE FINALLY APPEARED TO BE GETTING THE MESSAGE THAT SUDDEN EXPORT SURGES CONCENTRATED IN PARTICULAR FIELDS (E.G., COLOR TV), UNAVOIDABLY PRODUCE PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES ON U.S. SIDE. GOJ CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED IT NOW AWARE OF IMPORTANT INFLUENCE EXERTED BY U.S. UNIONS ON U.S. TRADE POLICY. MINISTER OF LABOR OPENED CONFERENCE, HOSTED LAVISH RECEPTION AND, BEHIND THE SCENES, EXPEDITED MEETING BETWEEN AMERICAN DELEGATION AND JAPANESE BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT. END LOU.

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Message Attributes

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